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* STARS

Kay Francis, Ian Hunter, John Litel and Donald Crisp. A cast in the "name" class. Production is expertly directed by Busby Berkeley.

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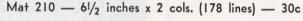


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OFFICIAL BILLING

WARNER BROS.

40 %

Pictures, Inc. Presents

5%

"COMET OVER BROADWAY" 100 %

with

KAY FRANCIS • IAN HUNTER JOHN LITEL • DONALD CRISP

40 % 40 %

MINNA GOMBEL

10%

Directed by Busby Berkeley

25 %

Director of Dasof Delicity

Screen Play by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner 3% From a Cosmopolitan Magazine Story by Faith Baldwin 2%

A First National Picture

3%

VITAPHONE SHORTS

MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED — in the new and interesting series, learn about weather bureau operations, television, and vitamins. 4605—The Color Parade—11 mins.

ORCHESTRA — Happy Felton and the boys in another of the tuneful band series. 4705 — Melody Masters — 10 mins.

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CARTOON with Porky and the daffy duck going through a new and bigger laugh-getting routine. 4804 — Looney Tunes — 7 mins.

TECHNICOLOR CARTOON—a champion for laffs is this one about a couple of rodents raising a little cain, "The Mice Will Play." 4508—Merrie Melodies in Technicolor—7 mins.

'Comet Over Broadway' Dynamic Film Drama

Faith Baldwin Story On The Screen; Coming To Strand Theatre

Faith Baldwin's Cosmopolitan magazine story "Comet Over Broadway," which was adapted for the screen by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner, will be the next feature attraction at the Strand Theatre, starting Friday. Kay Francis heads the cast of stars which also includes Ian Hunter, John Litel, Minna Gombel, Donald Crisp, Melville Cooper, Sybil Jason, Ian Keith and a host

The story, fashioned by such expert hands at fiction writing as Miss Baldwin



Berkeley to do a fine dramatic At the outset of the tale, Kay KAY FRANCIS Francis is seen

as a stage-struck girl in a middle western town who is married to John Litel, a man much her senior. While she is innocently visiting a famous actor who has come to the town, Litel walks in, there is a fight and the actor is accidentally killed.

Her husband sentenced to life imprisonment, Kay promises to devote her life to obtaining his freedom. Taking her infant daughter with her, she becomes an actress in traveling tent shows and then in a burlesque troupe, of which Minna Gombel is the prima donna.

On her way upward, Kay meets a producer played by Ian Hunter, and they fall in love. Fearing her love, Kay flees to England, where she wins big success on the stage. Several years later, Hunter follows her and offers her a part in a Broadway production expressly written for her.

She returns and scores a great triumph in the play, but she proves to be just a "Comet Over Broadway" because she gets news that her husband can be freed at last. And although she loves Hunter she takes her small daughter and goes back to her old home and her husband, to make up to him for his years in prison.

Faith Baldwin Story Soon On Strand Screen

Faith Baldwin's Cosmopolitan Magazine story "Comet Over Broadway," which was adapted for the screen by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner, will open at the Strand Theatre on Friday. Directed by Busby Berkeley, the picture stars Kay Francis, and Ian Hunter, John Litel, Minna Gombel, Sybil Jason, Donald Crisp, Ian Keith and many others are featured with her in the story of the meteoric career of a star.



ROMANCE OF BROADWAY — Ian Hunter, as a theatrical producer, and Kay Francis, as his brightest star, are teamed in "Comet Over Broadway," Warner Bros. drama based on the Faith Baldwin story, coming to the Strand.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Eve Appleton	Kay Francis
	Ian Hunter
	John Litel
Grant	Donald Crisp
Tim Adams	Minna Gombel
Jackie	Sybil Jason
Emerson	Melville Cooper
	Ian Keith
Janet Eaton	Leona Marical
Brogan	Ray Mayer
Mrs. Appleton	Vera Lewis
	Nat Carr
Willis	
	Edward McWade
Benson	Clem Bevans
Miss McDermott	Linda Winters
	Jack Mower
Stage Manager	Jack Wise

PRODUCTION STAFF

Directed by	Busby Berkeley
Screen play by	Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner
From a Cosmopolitan Magazine s	story byFaith Baldwin
Photography by Ja	mes Wong Howe, A.S.C.
Art Director	Charles Novi
Film Editor	James Gibbon
Gowns by	Orry-Kelly
Sound by	Charles Lang
Music by	H. Roemheld
Musical Director	Leo F. Forbstein

Length - 6375 feet Running Time - 69 minutes

Star Explains Role In 'Comet Over Broadway'

"Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. drama adapted from a Faith Baldwin story, opens at the Strand Theatre on Friday. The picture centers about a great actress, who, at the height of her career, deserts Broadway and fame for her husband and child.

Kay Francis, who plays this role in "Comet Over Broadway," expounded her philosophy on the subject of such sacrifices one day during the filming of the picture.

An unselfish selfishness is an essential to a successful career.

The fire of ambition must burn with an all-consuming fierceness, permitting no barrier to halt it, according to Kay Francis.

But, the Warner Bros. star adds seriously, there is no success if this selfish drive toward the goal has not left the ambitious one completely unselfish.

In the picture, Kay's husband, John Litel, goes to prison, and Kay, taking along their two-yearold baby, goes out on the road as an actress to earn money to liberate him. She travels with tent shows, carnivals and then with a burlesque troupe.

While with the burlesque troupe, she permits Minna Gombel, who is retiring from the road, to take the baby so she can accept a vaudeville engagement and progress higher in her career.

"Under these circumstances in real life," John Litel asked Kay, "would you leave your child and permit a stranger to care for

"Definitely yes, under the circumstances in the story," Kay replied. "Selfishly the mother wants the baby with her because of the inspiration she provides. Regarding the problem unselfishly, however, she knows it is best for the child that she be taken away from the hardships of traveling on the road and provided with a home.

"Her desire to succeed as an actress is not merely selfish personal ambition; she is doing it for the sake of her baby and husband as well. Presence of the baby with her is definitely a hindrance; she knows she will travel faster by traveling alone."

As the baby grows up, the mother, whose love for her is undiminished, is regarded merely as a friend by the child, then portrayed by Sybil Jason, who thinks Minna Gombel is her real mother. Of course when the real mother has achieved financial security, she reclaims her child.

"Many are the sacrifices that must be made in the name of ambition," Kay pointed out. "Often the world, misunderstanding, brands the ambitious one as ruthless and selfish when actually the most unselfish motives have ruled."

'Comet Over Broadway' Coming To Strand

"Comet Over Broadway," which Cosmopolitan Magazine readers will remember as one of Faith Baldwin's greatest stories, will be the next feature attraction at the Strand Theatre. Busby Berkeley directed the picture which stars Kay Francis and features Ian Hunter, John Litel, Donald Crisp, Minna Gombel, Sybil Jason, Melville Cooper, Ian Keith, Leona Marcical and many other prominent players.

Miss Baldwin's story, adapted for the screen by the famous columnist Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner, tells-as the title suggests-about the rise and fall of a great actress and the behindscenes drama of her life, which causes her to give up her brilliant career and the man she loves in order to pay for a youthful mistake. The tale is set against a background which shifts from a middle-western town to London's theatrical district and back to the Great White Way.

Kay Francis Stars In New Strand Drama

"Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. drama which will open at the Strand on Friday, was adapted from Faith Baldwin's Cosmopolitan Magazine story by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buck ner, an array of writing talent such as is seldom assembled on one picture. Faith Baldwin, whose fietion is well-known and loved the world over, has often sold stories to Hollywood, but not often has so distinguished a columnist and dramatist as Hellinger been given the job of adapting them for the screen. Buckner, his collaborator, is also an outstanding member of the writing fraternity.

Kay Francis heads the cast of "Comet Over Broadway," which includes such brilliant players as Ian Hunter, John Litel, Minna Gombel, Donald Crisp, the capable little nine-year old Sybil Jason, and many others. Busby Berkeley, who recently guided the production of "Garden of the Moon," di-

The title of this picture may be taken quite literally, too, as the highly dramatic story deals with the comet-like career of an actress. who, at the height of her greatest fame, gives it up to make amends to the husband who she has wronged. Posed against a background that shifts from a small mid-western town, through a series of honky tonks where the actress gets her first stage experience, on to London where she first gains fame, back to Broadway and the bright lights which burn all too briefly for her, and back to the old home town, the story moves swiftly and surely to its powerful dramatic

Big Cast In 'Comet Over Broadway'

"Comet Over Broadway," the Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner adaptation of Faith Baldwin's Cosmopolitan Magazine story, which comes to the Strand Theatre on Friday, has Kay Francis and Ian Hunter in the two leading roles. Also featured with them are John Litel, Donald Crisp, Minna Gombel, Sybil Jason, Melville Cooper, Ian Keith and a large cast of others. And only one member of the cast has any complaint to

Ian Hunter is very much in sympathy with the girl who is "often a bridesmaid but never a bride."

Ian loves often and well on the screen but he never wins the girl.

He lost her again in "Comet Over Broadway," but he bore up nobly and well under the strain. Again, as has happened before, Kay Francis was the luscious damosel who remained only the girl of his dreams.

"You can't exactly say I am an unkissed lover," he says with a laugh, "because Kay and I have our brief moment of romance and happiness. Then we part and I promise that I will wait for her forever. And that should please both factions in the audience—the optimists will see a happy ending in the fact that I am waiting and waiting and the pessimists will enjoy the fact that forever is a very long time."

In private life Ian Hunter has done very well by romance. He won the girl-Casha Pringle, formerly an actress-and they live happily, absorbed with the interest of their two children, Jolyon George and Robin Fan.

Perhaps that is why he enjoys his screen roles—the happy ending has been indelibly written to his own true life romance.



MOTHER MEETS DAUGHTER — Kay Francis (right) meets her film daughter (Sybil Jason) who has been raised from babyhood by Minna Gombel (center), in a dramatic scene from "Comet Over Broadway," based on the Faith Baldwin story, coming to the Strand Theatre on Friday.

Kay Francis And Director Staged Mimic War On Set

Visitors Watching 'Comet Over Broadway' Filming, Treated To Off-Stage Scene

Somewhere some erstwhile tourist - long since back at home must still be wondering whether seeing and hearing are believing or whether all Hollywood folk are just a bit insane.

These tourists, visiting in Hollywood, were permitted to tour the Warner Bros. Studio and were taken about with a studio policeman as guide.

They were not the first visitors to the set where Kay Francis was working in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture coming to the Strand Theatre next Friday, but they were the first and only tourists to see the scene they witnessed.

They arrived just in time to see Busby Berkeley, the director, go into a fit of temperament. He raged and ranted, tore the air and what is left of his hair and demanded to know what Kay Francis meant by keeping him waiting two solid hours while she had alterations made on a silly gown.

"If you can shout I can shout," shouted Kay, whereupon she proceeded to tell what she thought of Berkeley.

When that was over, she flounced off to her dressing room, announcing she was through for the day. As she left, Berkeley minced over to the awestruck, open-mouthed tourists, struck an exaggerated Bing Crosby pose and sang, "Booboo-ba-boo."

The tourists were leaving when Kay, laughing heartily, returned.

"Please stay and watch a scene," she said. "We were only fooling."

The visitors stayed. When they left, the policeman was still explaining in his most eloquent way that of course Miss Francis and Mr. Berkeley were only fooling; that it was an act put on just for the benefit of the visitors.

"And we were only fooling," Kay remarked after they had gone. "I haven't asked to have visitors barred from the set and we've had a great many today. So, 'Buzz' and I thought we'd give them something to take home with them, and incidentally, break the monotony with a little fun for

Whether or not the visitors believed it was an act, has never been ascertained. Their perplexity was certainly a tribute to the histrionic talents of Kay and "Buzz," this sentiment being voiced by one of the visitors who

was overheard mumbling as he left the set, "It certainly looked good."

"Comet Over Broadway" is a highly dramatic story of the meteoric rise and fall of a great actress who discovers for herself that she loves her daughter and a normal home life even more than the bright lights and glamour of the stage. She hears the plaudits of her enraptured audiences while yearning for the arms of her hus-

Adapted by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner from the widelyread Cosmopolitan Magazine tale by Faith Baldwin, the cast besides Miss Francis, includes Ian Hunter, John Litel, Donald Crisp, Minna Gombel, Sybil Jason, Melville Cooper and many others.

Star's Diplomacy SavesBaby'sScenes

Kay Francis nearly became (cinematically) the mother of twins one day.

The only thing that saved her were the production difficulties such an event would involve.

Victoria Scott portrays Kay's daughter at the age of two in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picturization of a popular Faith Baldwin story, which will be the next attraction at the Strand Theatre.

Victoria's stand-in was a lovely, life-like image of the two-year old actress. The fact that the grownups on the set called it a stand-in meant nothing to little Victoria: to her it was nothing but a great big beautiful doll to be loved and played with. There just didn't seem to be any way to separate her from her new love, either, and this presented some very real difficulties. They couldn't have the doll in the picture and they couldn't have Victoria without the doll.

How did they keep the doll out of the picture? They didn't.

It is in every scene in which Victoria appears but it can't be seen. Kay Francis finally convinced Victoria that the doll should sleep while Victoria was working, so the doll was placed in a little crib on the set where the child player could see her but the camera

On Getting Propped By A Prop Man-

Holding up a sneeze until a take is finished on a film set is common practice.

Holding up a director until a take is finished is most uncommon.

That's what happened during the filming of a scene in which Kay Francis, Minna Gombel and a bunch of girls representing burlesque queens participated for "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture coming to the

Strand Theatre next Friday.

It was a "dolly" shot, in which
the camera followed the action by moving back on rails. The set was a Pullman car, and to allow for the mechanism needed to show movement of the train, it was on a platform some ten feet above the floor of the stage.

The action was started and Director Busby Berkeley watched intently from behind the camera. When the camera started back, Mr. Berkeley started back. Completely forgetting he was on a platform, he reached the edge and a 45 de-

As he started to fall, the prop man, Bud Friend got under him. With upraised hands, he held Mr. Berkeley at the 45 degree angle until the scene was finished.

The take was saved, the day was saved and so was Mr. Berkeley's

Just Once He'd Like To Get That Girl!

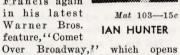
Ian Hunter is a patient soul. At home he is constantly going around turning off the electric lights other people leave.

On the screen he is forever losing the girl.

Some day he hopes to remedy both situations—but not very hopeful. There is as much chance, he

feels, of educating people in the economy of turning off lights as there is of convincing a script writer he would look nice with a girl in his arms at the end of a picture.

He loses Kay Francis again in his latest Warner Bros. feature, "Comet



next Friday at the Strand Theatre. Off the screen Hunter lives happily with his wife and children at his beach home. He has his dogs, his boating and other diversions of the English gentlemen. He is jovial and congenial and lives the good life. So he thinks there is no reason why he shouldn't win the girl once in a while in pictures.

"I might impress my wife even more if I did," he says.

Made Quick Progress

Minna Gombel, who has an important role in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture opening Friday at the Strand Theatre, won her first stage role at the age of 16 in competition with fifty other girls. Within six months she was playing leads and at 20 she owned her own stock company in Syracuse, N. Y.

Knows Bard Well

Ian Keith, who is featured in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture opening Friday at the Strand Theatre, is one of the country's foremost authorities on Shakespeare. He has studied the Bard's works since he was in his teens, although his ambition then was to become a writer and

1927-28 CURVES PRESENT PROBLEM

Just what the curvacious state of burlesque girls was in the years around 1927-28 was the problem con-fronting Director Busby Berkeley when he selected girls to comprise the bur-lesque troupe which Kay joins in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picturization of a popular Faith Baldwin story, which opens at the Strand Theatre next Friday.

Berkeley threw up his hands and sent a messenger hot-footing it to the studio's research department. Much scholarly work resulted in the findings that the chorus girls were to have perfect figures, not too fat and not too lean, because the Ziegfeld influence had penetrated to the burlesque theatres by that time.

Recital Gave Minna Gombel Acting Start

If Minna Gombel were given her choice between a champagne supper and a Dutch lunch with beer, she'd choose the latter.

That's the kind of person she is. She has been on stage and screen since she was 16, and she portrays a burlesque queen so realistically in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture coming to the Strand Theatre, that one could easily believe that she had had ex perience in burlesque in real life. That is, however, about the one type of show business in which she has never worked.

She is the daughter of a doctor, the granddaughter of a minister, and her uncle, Dr. Henry Salzer of John Hopkins Hospital, invented

the stomach pump.

She completed her education at the Bard Avon School at Mt. Vernon, playing basketball and leads in school plays. To correct awkwardness, she took vocal, expression and pantomine lessons after finishing school. At a school recital she gave a reading of "The Piper" for an hour and a half and teachers advised her to go on the stage, and unknown to her family, she got her first stage job at the age of 16 in competition with 50 other girls.

Finally Sees Prison

Though John Litel scored an international triumph in "Alcatraz Island,' he had never been inside a real penitentiary until just before he started working in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture opening Friday at the Strand Theatre. His first prison visit was made to San Quentin in the course of a trip he took to show some visiting relatives the sights of California.

Allergic To Wallets

John Litel, who plays Kay Francis' husband in the Warner Bros. picture, "Comet Over Broadway," which opens Friday at the Strand Theatre, never carries a billfold. Before becoming an actor, he spent some time in a middle-western factory making billfolds, a very monotonous job, and when he left it, he swore never to carry a billfold.

Doesn't Dry Her Face

Before applying make-up, Kay Francis, lovely star appearing in Warner Bros. "Comet Over Broadway," coming soon to the Strand Theatre, always pats her face with a soft cloth dipped in ice-water. Then she pats on powder without drying her face.

John Litel Is Authority On True Love

If love dies, it is not and never has been love, says John Litel.

Litel should know. On the stage and screen he has experienced love in all its phases, fancied and real. In "Comet Over Broadway," Warner Bros.' absorbing picturization of the romantic Faith Baldwin story, which comes next Friday to the Strand

Theatre, Litel is the husband of Kay Francis and goes to prison because of love for her. Litel accidentally kills Ian Keith in 'Comet Over Broad way. Keith insults Litel's wife and Litel strikes him. In falling, Keith strikes



JOHN LITEL

his head and is killed. Litel is convicted and sentenced to prison.

Realizing she is responsible, indirectly, for his prison sentence, Kay devotes her life to freeing him. And John sits in his prison cell thinking of her, never questioning her fidelity, counting the days until he returns to her. And that, says Mr. Litel is love.

In real life he is happily married to a non-professional. Together they have travelled extensively. Marriage has converted him into a most domesticated companion. Litel likes to cook, and particularly enjoys good food and wines.

"Comet Over Broadway," which was adapted by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner from Miss Baldwin's original story which ran in Cosmopolitan Magazine, was directed by Busby Berkeley.

9-Year Old Star Is One-Girl News Staff

A new newspaper made its bow in Hollywood recently.

It was the Hollywood edition of the Capetown (South Africa) Daily News.

The owner, publisher, editor and staff of the paper was nine-yearold Sybil Jason.

Sybil personally put out the paper every day on the set while she was working in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. production featuring Kay Francis, which is coming to the Strand The-

Every feature of the modern newspaper was offered in the Daily News, which Sybil printed neatly with a lead pencil on a page about six by eight inches. Page one carried the news of the day and there was a page devoted to comics. which Sybil drew; a screen column in which she puffed "Comet Over Broadway" in a way far beyond the talents of a press agent; a woman's department in which she offered home making hints, fashions; an editor's mailbag and editorial page, among other features.

And the price of the paper is two cents, "if anybody wants to buy it," she announced naively.

"I've got a reporter's badge," she explained, "so I decided I had to be a real reporter."

Kay Prefers Skirts

Kay Francis, considered one of the best feminine tennis players in the film colony, agrees with Helen Wills in the shorts vs. dress court argument. Kay nearly always wears a frock. Her favorite is sheer white wool, zippered up the back in red, fashioned without sleeves, medium full bodice and short flaring skirt. Kay's latest Warner Bros. picture, "Comet Over Broadway," is playing at the Strand Theatre.

'Comet Over Broadway' Opens Today

"Comet Over Broaday," Faith Baldwin's Cosmopolitan Magazine story, which was adapted for the screen by Mark Hellinger and Rob ert Buckner, comes to the Strand Theatre today.

Theatre today.

With Kay Francis in the starring role, the fine cast also includes Ian Hunter, John Litel, Donald Crisp, Minna Gombel, the now 9-year-old Sybil Jason, Ian Keith and Melville Cooper. The production was directed by Busby Berkeley.

ley.

The story carries Kay from a stage struck girlhood in a small middle western town through disheartening years of playing in traveling tent shows, burlesque and vaudeville, then recounts her first moves toward success in the more respectable stratum of the theatre, next covers an interlude in England, during which she becomes a reigning stage favorite there, and finally shows the night of her first great triumph—where she is destined to become a "Comet Over Broadway."

That professional progress, however, is only the background of the real drama in the life of the woman depicted by Kay. Along the way, Kay has seen her husband go to jail for life for a murder he did not commit, she has promised to devote her life to obtaining his freedom, she has relinquished her infant daughter to a woman friend who could give the child a normal home life, and finally she has fallen in love with a theatrical producer who knows nothing of her past life.

At the time of her greatest success professionally, she learns that her husband's release from jail can be effected, if she can raise the necessary sum. The decision that she finally makes forms the potent dramatic climax of "Comet Over Broadway."

'Gag' Gift Proves To Be Invaluable

One of the most unusual keepsakes in Hollywood is the autograph book which Minna Gombel received from the late Roscoe Fawcett, prominent magazine publisher.

While showing the book one day on the set of "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture which is now showing at the Strand Theatre, Minna revealed it had been given to her as a gag, so she could solicit autographs instead of being solicited for her signature.

Tony Sarg started the ball rolling with an interesting page, then John Barrymore drew a page of cartoons and now almost every famous acting and writing personage in Hollywood has contributed pages to the book, which, of course, Minna regards as priceless.

So Keep Crooning

A waiter who heard Donald Crisp singing in his bath was responsible for the actor's first professional engagement. Crisp, who is featured with Kay Francis in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture at the Strand Theatre, was given a job by John C. Fisher, head of the Fisher Riley opera company, who was told of the actor's singing ability by the waiter.

Likes Tiny Hats

Kay Francis put her seal of approval on the mad miniature hats by going into an exclusive Hollywood Boulevard shop and buying five at a sitting. Every one she tried on was becoming with her classic black silk jersey and double strand of pearls. Kay's latest Warner Bros. picture, "Comet Over Broadway," is the current attraction at the Strand Theatre.

(Review)

'Comet Over Broadway' Sparkling Drama Of Loves Of An Actress

Kay Francis Stars In Strong Story By Faith Baldwin

Sentimentality that is honest and unashamed—and is therefore all the more affecting—produced a bounteous crop of tear-dimmed eyes and lumps in the throat as "Comet Over Broadway," a new Warner Bros. picture which opened at the Strand yesterday, unfolded its moving tale of a great star who sky-rocketed to fame and back to obscurity.

There were several reasons why "Comet Over Broadway" emerged as the engrossingly effective picture that it is. Perhaps most important was the fact that the plot was based on a popular Cosmopolitan Magazine story by Faith Baldwin, a sure-fire author if there ever was one. Then the task of transposing the story into a screen play was entrusted to two such capable writers as Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner.

Kay Francis, one of the screen's foremost emotional actresses, portrays the central character of the story. The role was a "natural" for her, and she rose to the occasion with all the resources of art and personality that have long since established her as one of the foremost emotional actresses who have ever graced the screen.

Surrounding the star in roles nicely designed to exhibit their talents and their charms under the most favorable auspices, a truly remarkable cast helped to infuse the production with the sparks of truth and vitality.

Sharing top honors in this fine ensemble were Ian Hunter, John Litel, Donald Crisp, Minna Gombel, little Sybil Jason, Ian Keith and Melville Cooper, and they, and Miss Francis as well, would probably be eager to attest that the effectiveness of their work was materially aided by the sympathetic and understanding direction of Busby Berkeley, who certainly prove anew-he did it before in "Garden of the Moon" -that it's time for the public to forget that his name was famous once only for his staging of dance numbers.

The story requires Miss Francis to display a wide variety of characterization. At its outset she is simply a stage-struck young matron in a middle western town whose ambitions seem to have little chance of realization, since she is kept close to her hearth by a dot-



Mat 202-30d

COMET OVER BROADWAY — rising quickly to the heights of theatrical fame, Kay Francis gets some distracting news in a scene from "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture from the Faith Baldwin story, opening today at the Strand Theatre.

ing husband and a two-year old daughter.

But her life is lifted out of the humdrum when her husband is convicted of a murder he didn't commit and she resolves to devote her

STORY SYNOPSIS (Not for Publication) Kay Francis, pretty wife of a small town garage owner has theatrical aspirations. Her husband, John Litel, in an argument with a visiting actor over Kay, kills him accidentally and is sent to prison. Kay, realizing her part in his fate, vows to right matters, and taking her infant daughter, goes away to make her way in the theatre. She is forced to leave her baby girl with Minna Gombel, a friend. Ian Hunter befriends her and they fall in love, but Kay flees abroad where she becomes a star. Back in America, the toast of Broadway, she is brought back to a realization of her vows by Donald Crisp, her home town lawyer, and in complete self-abnegation, she gives up Hunter and her career to return to Litel about to be released.

life to obtaining his release from jail, to which he has been sentenced for life. Mainly to raise funds to continue the legal battle in his behalf, she goes on the stage—at first in the lowly capacity of an actress in a traveling tent show.

She forges her way upward, however, but along the way she has found it necessary to leave her child in the care of a friend who could give the baby a normal home life. And, also along the way, she has fallen in love with a noted theatrical producer. That is when she has herself climbed to very near the top of the ladder.

It is when her child has grown to the age of twelve and her husband has been in jail a decade that she is told she can bring about his release if she raises \$10,000 immediately. The producer advances the money, but he also extracts from her a promise that she will not stick to the husband she no longer loves after he is freed from jail.

When, however, she goes to the prison to inform her husband of his impending release, she finds she cannot tell him that she will leave him, for his pathetic need of her then triumphs over her desire for her own happiness.

Was Side-Tracked By Shakespeare

Ian Keith intended to be a

writer and cartoonist.
Instead, his intense interest in the works of Shakespeare definitely directed his footsteps toward the

stage and screen.

Early during his school years he amazed his teachers with his knowledge of the Bard's works. He won a scholarship in the Sargeant Dramatic School and graduated with highest honors at the of 18.

Recently he played a featured role with Kay Francis in "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros.' picturization of the popular story by Faith Baldwin, which is now showing at the Strand Theatre. Also featured in the cast are John Litel, Ian Hunter, Minna Gombel, Sybil Jason, Melville Cooper and many others.

Soldiers Inspire Cap

Kay Francis, star of "Comet Over Broadway," now at the Strand, borrows her latest hat creation from the doughboys. It's an overseas cap of gold sequins, which she wears with a sequin-trimmed black crepe gown for formal occasions which call for a hat.

Star's Gowns By Designer Orry-Kelly

Every star in Hollywood has a studio fashion designer by whom she swears above all others.

Kay Francis, whose latest picture, "Comet Over Broadway," opens today at the Strand Theatre, gives Orry-Kelly a large part of the credit for all the fashion accolades she has won.

Carole Lombard feels nobody but Travis Banton can create the perfect gown. Ever since Milo Anderson did the gowns for Olivia de Havilland to wear in "Anthony Adverse," she has been loud in her praises of him. Ann Sheridan and Howard Shoup make up another mutual admiration society.

Once an actress swears allegiance to a certain designer, she usually unconsciously adopts many of his style idiosyncrasies in her personal wardrobe.

Orry-Kelly, for example, is rabidly against giant white pique collars and big white lacy accents at the throat. Kay Francis rarely wears them, and, on the other hand, she shows a predilection for draped gowns and turbans, which are Orry-Kelly specialties.

Actor Lends Ear To Woes Of All

If Donald Crisp ever decides to retire from acting, he will be well qualified to hang out his shingle as a professional advisor on and listener to people's troubles.

On the screen he is usually the faithful family friend, the understanding physician, the honest attorney or some other character of this type.

That's what he is in his current Warner Bros. picture, "Comet Over Broadway," which is running at the Strand Theatre. In this picturization of the romantic Faith Baldwin story, he is Kay Francis' attorney and devoted friend. He is her father confessor. To him she goes with all of her troubles.

And so it is in real life. The broad shoulders of the kindly Donald Crisp have shouldered many a trouble for his fellow actors, for grips and electricians, makeup men and hairdressers.

They all go to Crisp for advice and counsel on a wide variety of subjects ranging from how to invest their money to how to cure Junior of the habit of sticking out his tongue which he has acquired from a neighborhood imp.

To all Crisp lends a ready and sympathetic ear.

"I'm not sure I always give them good advice," he says modestly, "but it's interesting. And sometimes, without knowing it, I fool them by getting advice from them on my own worries."

Became A Pupil

Kay Francis spent most of her spare time during the filming of "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture now showing at the Strand Theatre taking a course in photography from Madison Lacey, the still photographer attached to the company. She intended, she said, to shoot a lot of pictures during her projected trip to London and South Africa.

3-Day Love Scene

Kay Francis and Ian Hunter must have hung up some sort of record during the filming of "Comet Over Broadway," the picture now showing at the Strand Theatre. Love scenes in one setting, before, during and after a proposal of marriage, took three days to film. Hays office please note: They didn't hold any one kiss that long, though!

Friday The 13th Her Lucky Day!

Kay Francis started "Comet Over Broadway," the Warner Bros. picture now showing at the Strand Theatre, on the 15th of the month, according to the studio's official schedule, but actually she made the first shot on the 13th, while taking a wardrobe test.

Both she and Director Busby Berkeley are superstitious and the 13th is Kay's lucky day. Friday's lucky for her, too. And her birthdate, Friday 13th, is the luckiest of all—but she would never start a picture on that date because she doesn't think a cast could be assembled who would agree with her that it was a lucky one.

"Comet Over Broadway" was adapted for the screen by Mark Hellinger and Robert Buckner from the Cosmopolitan Magazine story by Faith Baldwin.

Rolls By Motor

Motorized roller skates afford John Litel lots of off-screen fun. Foot pressure controls the speed, and the whole thing is lots more exciting sport than ordinary skating. Litel is currently featured in "Comet Over Broadway" at the Strand Theatre.



Mat 101-15c

KAY FRANCIS — Stars in "Comet Over Broadway," Warner Bros. drama based on the Faith Baldwin story, which opens today at the Strand.

Has Snapshot History

One of Kay Francis' most valued possessions she revealed during the filming of "Comet Over Broadway," is a small snapshot album. The pictures, carefully placed in chronological order, offer a pretty complete record of her adult life.

TOPIC FOR DEBATE

The old controversy: "Should a woman seek a career or is her place in the home?" can be used as basis of a debate over the air. Married women who have become successful in business take one side, housewives the other. Of course, contest is tied in with your showing by means of announcements before and after program. If handled properly, stunt should be good for newspaper break.

INTERVIEW WOMEN

Inquiring reporter in lobby interviews women who have just seen picture on question: "Do you think Kay Francis was justified in sacrificing her personal happiness for a man she didn't love?" Editor of woman's page can also be approached on this question, writing up arguments for both sides of question in woman's column.

YOUR CURTAIN CALL



Curtain of miniature stage set goes up and down revealing blowup stills CC 36, 43, 307, and copy shown above. Revolving disc (A) has string attached at (D). String goes through pulley (B). As (A) revolves, curtain (C) rises and falls.

MAGAZINE STORY

"Comet Over Broadway" is based on the popular Cosmopolitan Magazine story by Faith Baldwin. Display back copies of issues carrying story in lobby and surround with stills from picture. Copy: "Faith Baldwin, brilliant American writer, tells all in this thrilling story of a woman you know." Also arrange to have local magazine distributor insert heralds in latest issues of Cosmopolitan.

SACRIFICE STORIES

In the picture, Kay Francis sacrifices her own happiness for the sake of her husband and daughter. You can play up this angle by arranging to have local paper award small prizes or guest tickets to those sending in the best letters relating a similar 'sacrifice story.' Some may be interesting enough for publication.

FIND TOWN'S THESPIANS

Conduct a city-wide search for outstanding amateur actors and actresses. 'Talent scout' makes the rounds of schools, dramatic groups, etc., and selects outstanding performers. They are awarded prizes at your theatre night picture opens. Newspaper interviews can be arranged, in which winners tell why they think they are qualified to become successful actors and actresses. There's also the possibility that one of the winners will "click" with local producer. This would mean added newspaper publicity for your theatre.

"WHAT CONSTITUTES TRUE LOVE?"

In "Comet Over Broadway," John Litel proves his love for his wife by killing a man to protect her honor. This angle can be used as the basis of a newspaper contest in which readers are asked to send in letters, answering the question: "What Constitutes True Love?" Best letters are awarded guest tickets to your show. Publicity story on Page 8 in which John Litel gives his ideas on the subject, can be printed along with contest rules.

NOTIFY SECRETARIES

Secretaries and stenographers go for this kind of a picture, so be sure to tell them about your show. Distribute notes on office memo paper in office buildings, restaurants, beauty shops, etc. Copy: "What strange power can make a small town girl Braodway's star of mystery? What guilty secret can make her give up fame and romance for a man she doesn't love? See 'Comet Over Broadway' with Kay Francis at the Strand Friday."

FIND 'PERFECT MOTHER'

Contest is sponsored by local newspaper. Competing mothers are invited to supply information about their families — their rules for a happy marriage and successful family life, methods of rearing their children, etc. Prize, which can be promoted from local merchant, is awarded to the woman whom judges consider the 'perfect mother.' Her rules for happiness can be printed on woman's page of cooperating newspaper.

RUN A "LADIES" DAY"

Stress the feminine angle by running a woman's party and fashion event at your theatre. Group of shapely young girls parade on marquee, or in lobby, modeling gowns from leading shops in town. If used as a marquee stunt, 6-sheets can be posted on both sides so that passers-by will be sure to note that Kay Francis in playing in "Comet Over Broadway." Merchants cooperate by advertising event via posters displayed on counters and in windows. Also notify women's clubs via direct mail.

TROUPER TALKS ON THEATRE

Perhaps there's an old trouper in town who will tell about his (or her) experiences in the theatre — the sacrifices he had to make, the outstanding stars he became associated with — winding up with advice to young actors and actresses just starting out on a stage career. Situations in picture might be tied in with his story. This should make a real human interest story for newspaper or radio feature.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER CONTEST

"Most Beautiful Mother and Daughter Contest" is staged in cooperation with local paper along lines of annual Beautiful Child Contest run by N. Y. Daily News and other papers throughout the country. Mothers are invited to send in photos of themselves with their daughters. Prizes are awarded to the most attractive pair. Winning pair can be introduced from your stage night picture opens.

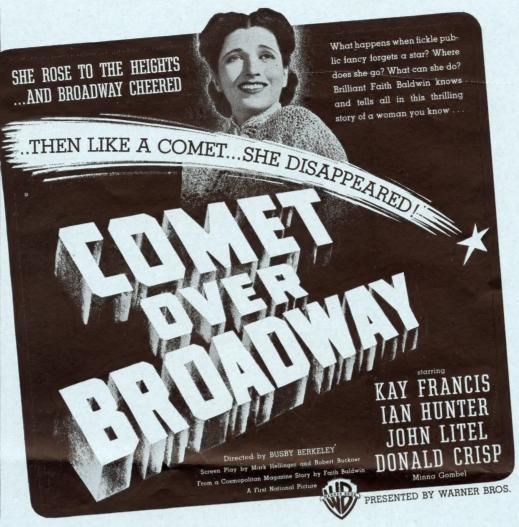
ADVICE TO SOB SISTERS

Editor of woman's page of local newspaper can assist in bringing your show to the attention of women. Might run a Sob Sister Column for a few days before your opening, inviting readers to send their marital and family problems to her. Stunt can be tied in with your showing of picture by having her mention in column the difficulties which Kay Francis experiences in the role she plays in "Comet Over Broadway."

ON THE COVER: The one-sheet; see the actual paper for lobby display.

HERALD - 40×60 - FAN FOTOS





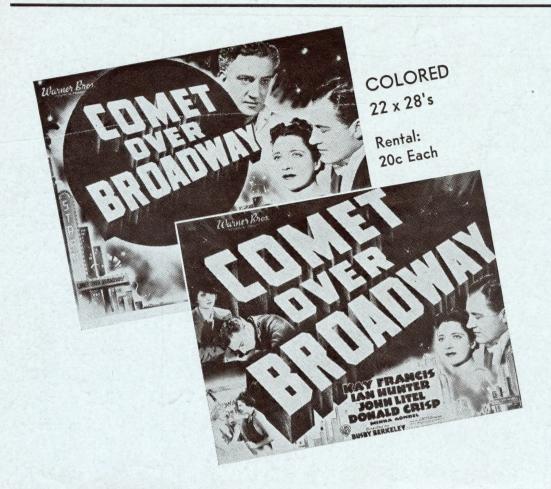
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